

Message Text

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40

ACTION ARA-10

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 ARAE-00 SSO-00 NSCE-00 INRE-00 USIE-00

CIAE-00 DODE-00 INR-05 NSAE-00 PA-01 RSC-01 PRS-01

SP-02 PM-03 L-02 AID-05 PC-01 CIEP-01 OMB-01 /034 W

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O R 201845Z NOV 74

FM AMEMBASSY BRASILIA

TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 6523

INFO AMCONSUL RIO DE JANEIRO

AMCONSUL SAO PAULO

AMEMBASSY BUENOS AIRES

AMEMBASSY MONTEVIDEO

AMEMBASSY LA PAZ

AMEMBASSY ASUNCION

AMEMBASSY SANTIAGO

USCINCSO QUARRY HEIGHTS CZ

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E. O. 16652: N/A

TAGS: PINS, BR

SUBJECT: ELECTION RESULTS: STILL COUNTING, STILL CALM

REF: BRASILIA 8726

1. AS OF EARLY NOVEMBER 20, CONTINUING VOTE COUNT
ADDED AMAZONAS TO THE LIST OF STATE LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLIES
TO BE CONTROLLED BY OPPOSITION MDB. ARENA'S JARAS
PASSARINHO OPENED UP A WHOPPING LEAD OVER HIS OPPONENT
IN PARA, WHILE THE MDB SENATORIAL CANDIDATES IN
PERNAMBUCO AND CEARA SAW THEIR LEADS DIMINISH BUT
HOLD. THE CURRENT PROJECTION, STILL SUBJECT TO CHANGE,
IS FOR ARENA TO HOLD 46 AGAINST THE MDB'S 20 IN THE
NEW SENATE, AND 192 AGAINST THE MDB'S 172 IN THE CHAMBER.
THE OUTCOME OF THE SENATORIAL RACE IN MATO GROSSO
REMAINED IN SOME DOUBT, AND THE UNOPPOSED ARENA
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SENATORIAL CANDIDATE IN MARANHAO WAS RUNNING VERY

SLIGHTLY AHEAD OF THE BLANK VOTES THERE. (WE WERE RELIABLY INFORMED THAT HIS PUTATIVE MDB OPPONENT IS TEARING HIS HAIR OUT IN FRUSTRATION.)

2. COMMENT CONTINUED IN MUCH THE SAME VEIN AS BEFORE. AMID REPORTS FROM MDB LEADERS THAT THE PARTY WOULD TAKE A MODERATE LINE, MDB PRESIDENT ULYSSES GUIMARAES TOLD REPORTERS THAT THE VICTORY WAS DUE IN PART TO THE PARTY'S CONQUEST OF BLANK AND NULL NOTES, AND STRESSED (AS REPORTED BY THE JORNAL DE BRASILIA) THE "IMPECCABLE FIGURE OF THE FEDERAL GOVERNMENT, SAYING THAT ON THIS PLANE THE OPPOSITION DID NOT SUFFER THREATS NOR PRESSURES AND THAT IT WAS PERMITTED TO TAKE PART IN A CLEAN ELECTION". SPEAKING ON THE SENATE FLOOR ON BEHALF OF THE MDB, MINORITY VICE-LEADER NELSON CARNEIRO CALLED THE ELECTIONS OF HISTORIC IMPORTANCE AND SAID ALL HAD WON: THE FEDERAL GOVERNMENT FOR HAVING CARRIED OUT EXEMPLARY ELECTIONS, THE MDB FOR ITS VOTE, THE ARENA BECAUSE IT WILL CORRECT ITS ERRORS, AND "THE DEMOCRATIC REGIME, WHICH HAD, FOR THE FIRST TIME IN THE LAST TEN YEARS, THE OPPORTUNITY TO AFFIRM ITSELF AS A CONSTANT ASPIRATION AND AS AN IRRESTIBLE AVOCATION OF THE BRAZILIAN PEOPLE".

3. ACCORDING TO THE ESTADO DE SAO PAULO, INFORMATION GATHERED ON THE GOVERNMENT SIDE "TENDED TO THE TRANQUILIZATION OF THE POLITICAL AREA AND OF PUBLIC OPINION". NOTED THE PAPER (AND MANY OTHER OBSERVERS), THE FACT THAT THERE WILL BE VIRTUALLY NO SIGNIFICANT PARLIAMENTARY ACTIVITY UNTIL THE NEW CONGRESS CONVENES IN MARCH IS LEADING TO A GENERAL EXPECTATION THAT THE ELECTION RESULTS WILL BE "TRANQUILLY ABSORBED". ARENA SENATOR (AND FORMER FOREIGN MINISTER) MAGALHAES PINTO DECLARED PUBLICLY THAT THE ARENA DEFEAT WILL NOT AFFECT THE GEISEL GOVERNMENT AND THAT "ON THE CONTRARY, THE RESULTS COULD FAVOR THE CARRYING OUT OF THE POLITICAL PROGRAM OF GRADUAL DECOMPRESSION THAT ALL DESIRE".

CRIMMINS
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Message Attributes

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